

REMARKS

Claims 1, 2, 4 and 18-20 are pending in this application. By this Amendment, claims 1, 2 and 4 are amended, and claims 18-20 are added. New claims 18-20 read on the second embodiment, Figs. 4-5. Reconsideration of the present application based on the above amendments and the following remarks is respectfully requested.

The Applicant thanks the Examiner for the courtesies extended Applicant's representative during the May 16, 2005 telephone conference. Applicant's separate record of the substance of the telephone conference is incorporated into the following remarks.

The Office Action rejects claims 1, 2 and 4 under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by Japanese Laid-Open Patent Application No. 2002-098990 A to Kitani. This rejection is respectfully traversed.

As discussed during the telephone interview, Kitani fails to disclose a driving thin-film transistor (TFT) controlling a light-emitting state of a light-emitting element, as claimed in claim 1, and similarly claimed in claim 18.

Kitani discloses an asymmetrical lightly doped drain (LDD) structure of a switching TFT and the control of the applied effective voltage to a liquid crystal layer (Abstract). Specifically, Kitani discloses:

PROBLEM TO BE SOLVED: To decrease display defects, such as flickers and luminance unevenness, and to obtain proper image quality by minimizing the differences between the *effective voltages impressed to liquid crystal layers* of respective pixels of the panels of a liquid crystal display device of an active matrix type.

SOLUTION: TFTs, lining up along the scanning line direction, are made small in resistance (rs) of the source regions and large in resistance (rd) of the drain regions on the power feed side and is made large in resistance (rs) in the source regions and made small in resistance (rd) in the source regions on the terminal side, with which the penetration voltages generated by the respective TFTs are made uniform, and the occurrence of the differences in the effective voltages impressed to the liquid crystal layers of the

respective pixels in the panels is obviated. (emphasis added,  
Abstract)

Thus, Kitani discloses a method for controlling resistance in the source regions or in the drain regions of a switching TFT so that the applied effective voltage to a liquid crystal layer will be equalized in the display area. Kitani does not provide a driving TFT controlling a light-emitting state of a light-emitting element.

Features of the driving TFT of claims 1 and/or 18 provide advantages over Kitani. For example, the asymmetrical LDD structure of the driving TFT reduces electrical resistance between source and drain regions to provide a larger current flow while also reducing the generation of hot carriers between the active region and the drain region. These features reduce the performance of the TFT from deteriorating over time (see, e.g., paragraph 52 of the specification).

Accordingly, it is respectfully submitted that the applied art fails to anticipate or render obvious the features of claims 1 and/or 18. Furthermore, those claims that depend from claims 1 and/or 18 are likewise distinguishable over the applied art for at least the reasons discussed above, as well as for additional features they recite. Accordingly, withdrawal of the rejection under §102 is respectfully requested.

In view of the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that this application is in condition for allowance. Favorable reconsideration and prompt allowance are earnestly solicited.

Should the Examiner believe that anything further would be desirable in order to place this application in even better condition for allowance, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the telephone number set forth below.

Respectfully submitted,



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Attachment:  
Request for Continued Examination

Date: May 17, 2005

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